

Texas Crop Weather

Released: July 6, 2004 (3:00 P.M. CDT)
For the week of June 28 - July 4, 2004
TX-CW2704

1-800-626-3142
www.nass.usda.gov/tx

Crop Progress Table - July 4, 2004

Crop	2004	2003	Average 1999-2003
	<u>Percent</u>		
Corn			
Silked	69	68	67
Dough	49	56	56
Dented	27	29	39
Mature	2	5	11
Cotton			
Planted	99	100	100
Squaring	53	33	53
Setting Bolls	17	19	17
Bolls Opening	2	2	3
Peanuts			
Pegging	35	24	34
Rice			
Headed	27	47	55
Sorghum			
Planted	92	89	94
Headed	49	46	50
Turning Color	37	37	38
Mature	25	18	24
Harvested	9	7	15
Wheat			
Harvested	94	87	88
Other Field Crops			
Planted			
Soybeans	100	97	99
Sunflowers	99	88	93
Harvested			
Oats	97	95	93

Crop Condition Table - July 4, 2004

Item	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor
	<u>Percent</u>				
Corn	42	42	14	2	0
Cotton	16	35	30	11	8
Peanuts	20	48	30	2	0
Rice	10	62	28	0	0
Sorghum	26	42	22	8	2
Wheat	5	29	34	23	9
Range & Pasture ...	26	42	20	7	5

Agricultural Summary: Scattered rainfall around the state slowed the planting of summer crops and small grain harvest. Heaviest rain occurred in the early part of the week. South Texas and South Central Texas experienced the heavier rainfalls. Rainfall continued to delay field activities and stress crops in much of the eastern half of the state. Flooding was reported in some counties along the Brazos River in North Central Texas. Areas of the Trans-Pecos and Edwards Plateau received lighter amounts of scattered rainfall compared to the rest of the state. Soil moisture remained favorable, except in dry areas in the Plains, Trans-Pecos and Permian Basin. Fields and pastures began the drying process toward the end of the week across most of the state. In most districts, there was increased insect and

weed pressure from excessive moisture. Harvest of sunflowers and cowpeas was underway in South Texas.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: In the Plains and North Central Texas, some wheat remained unharvested due to wet field conditions, and some head sprouting was reported. Statewide, wheat condition was rated at 58 percent of normal compared with 44 percent last year.

Corn: Corn harvest was underway in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Irrigation continued in dry areas. Rains delayed silage harvest in North Central Texas. Statewide, corn condition was rated at 93 percent of normal compared with 62 percent last year.

Cotton: Cotton progressed well on the Plains, except where storm damaged cotton acreage will be replaced with short season sorghum, corn or soybeans. Although irrigation of cotton continued in some fields in western Texas, from North Central Texas to the coastal districts some fields were too wet for field work. Sandfighting was planned for wet fields as they dry out. Plant growth regulators were being considered for areas with excessive growth. Insects and weeds were being treated with pesticides. Cotton began squaring in the Rio Grande area of the Trans-Pecos. Some early planted cotton was in the 6-7 true leaf stage and squaring in the Low Rolling Plains. Cotton on the Upper Coast was still suffering from excessive moisture. Statewide, cotton condition was rated at 70 percent of normal compared with 54 percent last year.

Sorghum: Planting continued on the Plains, except in wet fields. Fields in the North Central Texas were being sprayed for midge and headworm, but otherwise progressing well. Some fields will be ready for harvesting in about two weeks. Wet conditions delayed harvest in South Central Texas and the coastal districts. Sprouting of ripened grain was reported in some Upper Coast fields. Harvest preparations were ongoing in South Texas. Statewide, sorghum condition was rated at 82 percent of normal compared with 76 percent last year.

Peanuts: Peanuts under irrigation continued to look good. Statewide, peanut condition was rated at 84 percent of normal compared with 88 percent last year.

Rice: Rice was heading out in the Upper Coast. Sheath blight was noted in some fields. Statewide, rice condition was rated at 84 percent of normal, compared with 88 last year.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

In the **San Antonio-Winter Garden**, field activities were delayed by rains and surplus moisture in fields.

In the **High Plains**, pumpkins were looking good and making good progress. Growers watched for fungus problems resulting from recent rains.

In the **Trans-Pecos**, Potato harvest was going well, with good yields and excellent quality. Grapes were about two weeks from harvest. Onion harvest was winding down with excellent quality. Harvesting of cantaloupes and other melons began with fair to excellent conditions. Pecan nut development was going well.

In **East Texas**, Melon harvest was progressing well with good yields. Producers treated fungus diseases and insect pressure on some fields. Vegetables were showing effects of excessive soil moisture and high humidity.

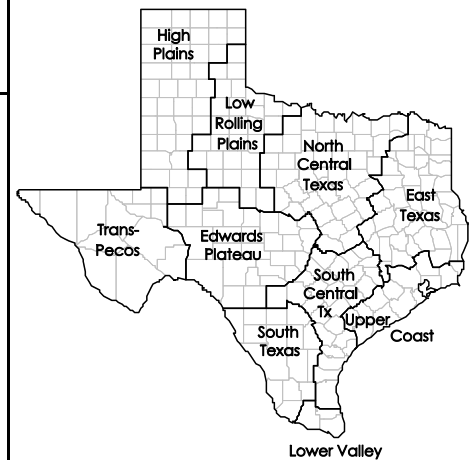
Pecans: Pecans continued to develop well. Watering continued in areas receiving scarce rainfall in June. Producers continued to monitor pecan nut casebearer, webworm and caterpillar activity. Pecan scab caused concern in areas with excess moisture.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock were in good to excellent condition, aided by good growth on range and pastures. Drier parts of the Trans-Pecos and Plains continued supplemental feeding. Pastures in eastern areas exhibited excess soil moisture and occasional flooding. Producers were spraying for flies and other insects. Ranchers in West Texas were conducting noxious weed, invasive brush and prickly pear control practices on ranges.

Weather Information Table ¹

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions	Previous week (Jun 28 - Jul 4) Accumulation	Month-to-date (Jun 1 - 30) Accumulation	Year-to-date (Jan 1 - Jul 4) Accumulation	1961-90 Annual Normal	Previous three months (Apr - Jun) Percent of Normal
High Plains	0.87	3.99	11.15	18.87	105
Low Rolling Plains	1.27	4.29	13.54	23.78	88
North Central Texas	1.16	8.15	21.00	34.00	119
East Texas	1.11	7.50	28.00	45.69	124
Trans Pecos	0.18	0.93	6.66	12.96	115
Edwards Plateau	0.88	4.77	14.49	24.01	122
South Central Texas	0.89	6.01	19.34	34.48	126
Upper Coast	0.46	8.50	32.69	47.63	161
South Texas	1.22	3.17	11.59	23.49	100
Lower Valley	0.00	5.05	14.29	25.34	142



¹ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

Top Soil Moisture by District - July 4, 2004 *

Condition	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
	Percent of Acreage														
Very Short	2	17	6	4	4	0	0	0	35	4	0	0	0	2	0
Short	18	28	11	22	7	1	0	0	43	17	0	0	0	10	55
Adequate	54	39	75	66	62	33	29	13	22	56	26	20	0	58	45
Surplus	26	16	8	8	27	66	71	87	0	23	74	80	100	30	0

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Plains: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Texas Department of Agriculture, National Weather Service.